[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

(*b*) Government see no advantage in re-opening the matter at present.

Working of the Arms Regulation.

80. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state what action they have taken on the resolution passed at the last sitting of the Legislative Council regarding the changes in the rules under the Arms Regulation?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The matter is under the consideration of Government.

Licenses under the Arms Rules.

81. MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN (*Muvattupuzha*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state how many fire-arms belonging to private individuals were pending return on the last day of Edavam, 1098, in the Kotamangalam station alone of the Muvattupuzha taluk, because the parties could not secure licenses to remove them?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing the number of applications for licenses from the taluks of Muvattupuzha, Todupuzha and Kunnatnad pending disposal on the last day of Edavam, 1098?

(*c*) Have the Government called for the explanations of the officers who were responsible for the delay in issuing licenses?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to take the necessary action against the officers concerned and arrange for the speedy issue of licenses in future?

(*e*) Will the Government, in pursuance of the resolution passed at the last Session of the Council, be pleased to allow immediately, to persons paying a tax of above Rs. 100, to the past and present members of the Municipal Councils, the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly and the Legislative Council, and to people living in mountainous tracts where men, cattle and produce are subject to destruction by wild animals, the possession and use of fire-arms without license, to the first two throughout the State and to the last in the localities they live in?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) 58. The District Magistrate, Kottayam, has since reported that all applications for licenses for fire-arms have been disposed of.

(*b*) 15 applications were pending at the close of Edavam, 1098. All these have since been disposed of.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Orders will be passed after the explanations are received. Instructions have been issued to the District Magistrates to dispose of all applications for licenses expeditiously and to despatch the licenses direct to the address of the applicants by Anchal to save delay.

(*e*) The member is referred to answer to interpellation No. 80.

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